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New York, Columbia University, Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Smith Western Add. MS 06

Description: ff. 163 - In old vellum wrapper with ties. - Belonged to a Dominican house; in October 1916 in the possession of W. M. Voynich (according to British Library notes; see below); acquired in 1954 from Thomas Heller with funds bequeathed by David Eugene Smith (1860-1944).

Number of Parts: 2 - *Number of Images Available:* 12

Direct Link: http://ds.lib.berkeley.edu/SmithWesternAdd.MS06_20

Language: Latin *Country:* Italy *Century:* 13th 9th

Part 1: ff. 1-163

Description: - Parchment - 210 x 149 mm

Country: Italy

Cardinal point:

Region: Umbria

City: Todi (prov. Perugia)

Assigned Date: s. XIII^2

Searchable Date Range: 1250 - 1299

Dated by scribe: No

Inscribed Date:

Document: No

Number of Scribes: ;Several.

Script: Ordinary minuscule.

Other Decoration: Initials generally in red, one in blue with red flourishing.

Number of Texts: 13

Text 1: ff. 3-28v

Author: Alfraganus

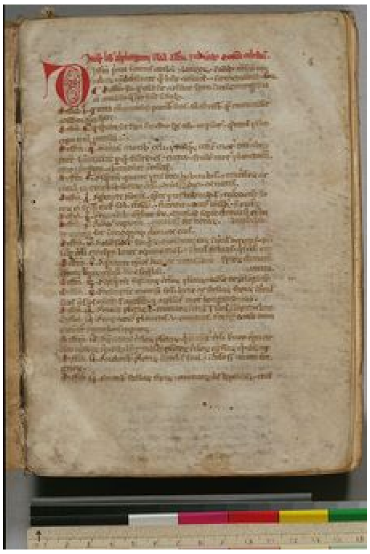
Other Associate: John of Seville, translator

Title: Rudimenta astronomicaor Liber Alfragani

Language(s): Latin

Incipit: Numerus mensium arabum et latinorum est duodecim

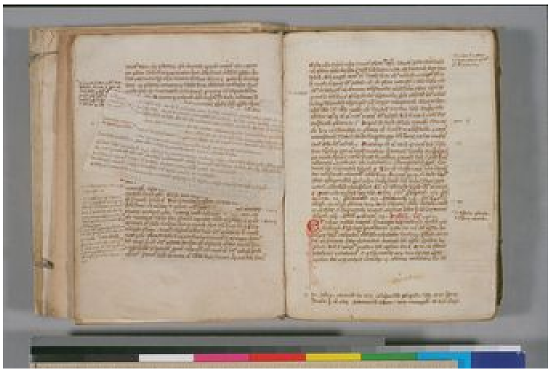
Notes: With a table of chapters; f. 28 contains a table, f. 28v: Si volueris invenire ascendens cuiuslibet coniunctionis vel preventionis accipe gradum solis cuiuscumque signi



f. 3

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ff. 15v, 17 Tipped in note foliated as f. 16.

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Text 2: ff. 29-44

Other Associate: John of Seville, translator

Author: Maslama al mayriti of Cordova

Title: De astrolabio

Title: Incipit liber in scientia et opere astrolabii 40 in se continens capitula. Capitulum primum inventione astrolabii et nominum super idem cadentium.

Language(s): Latin

Incipit: Primum horum est armilla super quem suspenditur astrolabium

Explicit: Et ex hoc quod diximus scitur quantum transierit de annis christi ex annis arabum si deus voluerit. Explicit liber operis astrolabii editione abileacim de macherit. qui dicitur Almacherita.



ff. 42v-43 Change of hand.

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Text 3: ff. 44v-47

Author: John of Seville

Title: De constitutione astrolabii

Language(s): Latin

Incipit: Astrologice speculationis exercitium habere volentibus eius instrumenti ratio naturali quodam ordine primiter occurit investiganda

Explicit: Secundum quod exemplar eas in astrolabii notabis regula. Cuius hec est figura.

Notes: Followed on ff. 47v-48v, Omnis artifex desiderans ad alicuius rei effectum pertingere mediante aliquo instrumento

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Text 4: ff. 47v-50v

Author: Campanus of Novara

Title: On the Quadrant

Language(s): Latin

Incipit: Scire debes quod circulus solis duas habet medietates quarum una tota est septentrionalis et continet 6 signa

Explicit: que posset per filum ipsum moveri a summo eius usque deorsum. Explicit de compositione quadrantis.

Notes: On f. 50v: Si vis scire altitudinem solis per quadrantem in omni hora, oppone quadrantem soli . . .; this text frequently follows the preceding one attributed to Campanus of Novara.

Status of text: Last treatise ending defectively?



ff. 48v-49 Flourished initial.

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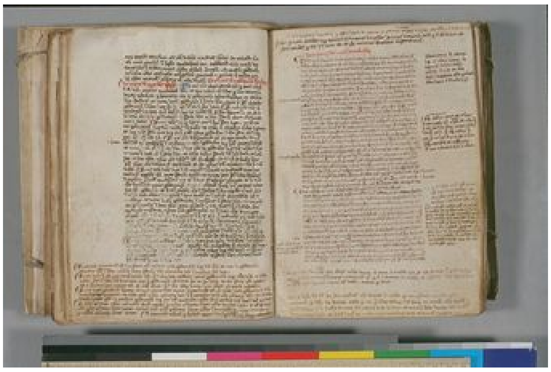
Text 5: ff. 51-61v

Title: Explicit primus liber, incipit secundus de motibus planetarum. Treatises on the motions of planets and computus; calendar

Language(s): Latin

Incipit: Post motuum superioris circuli notitiam testat celestium corporum infrapositorum circulorum cursus investigare

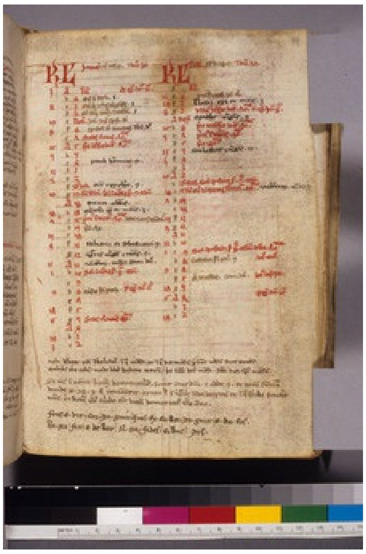
Notes: On f, 58v, Cum volueris scire qua feria unusquisque mensis arabum incipiat per tabulam ad hoc constitutam, sumes annos arabum omnes . . . ; ff. 59-61v, calendar adding Peter martry, 3 feasts of Dominic, 2 of Dominican anniversaries (5 Sept.; 10 Oct.).



ff. 50v-51 Change of hand.

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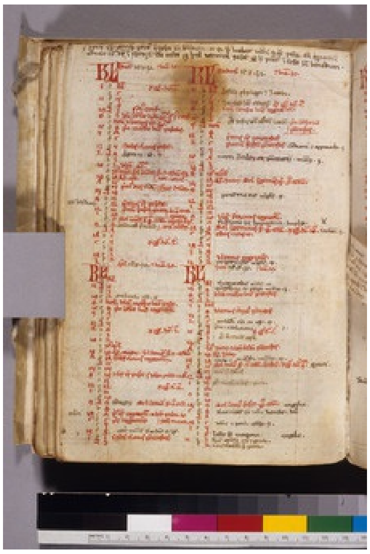
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f. 59 Calendar, January-February.

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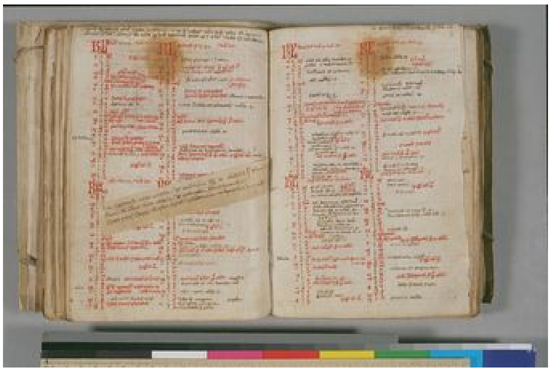
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f. 59v Calendar, March-June.

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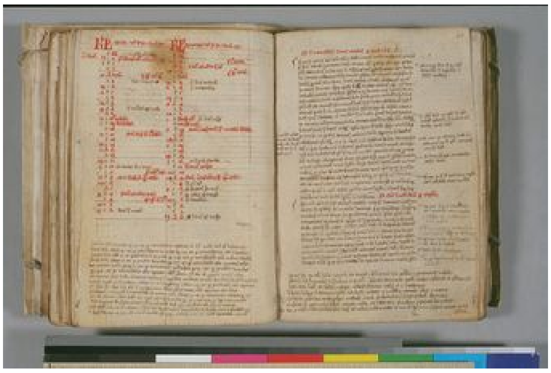
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ff. 59v, 61 Tipped in note foliated as f. 60; calendar, July-October.

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ff. 61v-62 Calendar, November-December.

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Text 6: ff. 62-64v

Title: Ad inveniendum annos arabum per tabulam. Computus

Language(s): Latin

Incipit: Cum igitur ex annis christi domini nostri et mensibus annos arabum et menses tibi placuerit per suam tabulam invenire, numerum annorum christi perfectorum quibus ego posui principium a kalendis martii

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Text 7: ff. 65-69

Author: Thebit ben Corat

Title: De motu octave spere

Language(s): Latin

Incipit: Ymaginabor spera equatoris diei et tres circulos in ea signatos quis circulus orizontis

Explicit: et est communis eis et omnibus stellis erraticis et cetera.

Notes: See text ff. 73-74v.

Text 8: ff. 69v-71

Author: Campanus of Novara

Title: Compotus

Title: De anno lunari secundum magistrum campanum in compoto suo, capitulo 14.

Language(s): Latin

Incipit: Annus lunaris est tempus continens 12 lunationes equales. Est autem lunatio equalis reditus eius ad solem

Status of text: Chapter 14 only?

Text 9: ff. 71v-72

Author: Macrobius

Title: Commentarium in somnium Scipionis

Title: De quantitate corporis [?] solis et quodmodo fuit inventa secundum macrobium.

Language(s): Latin

Incipit: Sicut ex terrena umbra potuit circuli per quem sol meat deprehendi magnitudo, ita per impetus circulum mensura solis inventa est in hunc modum

Explicit: solem octies terra esse maiorem. Hec de solis magnitudine breviter de multis excerpta libavimus.

Notes: Contains Book 1, chapter 20, parts 25-32. On f. 72, notes on "arismetrica" in distinctioformat.

Text 10: ff. 73-74v

Author: Thebit ben Corat

Title: De motu octave spere

Title: Incipit tractatus thebit de motu ocatve spere sive de motu accessionis et recessionis

Language(s): Latin

Incipit: Tractatus in quo continet doctrina motus accessionis et designationis figure eius sicut est in celo. Ymaginabor speram equinoctii et tres circulos in ea signatos, orizontis videlicet circulum

Explicit: Et omnibus planetis est communis.

Notes: See text ff. 65-69.

Text 11: ff. 75-80

Other Associate: William of England; Albertus Magnus; Angelus of Viterbo

Title: Ista que sunt in isto folio extracta sunt de canonibus magistri guilelmi anglici. Notes

Language(s): Latin

Incipit: Considera in quot annis remoto omni impedimento superfruitatis in annis super quos opus tuum fuerit

Notes: On f. 75v (upside down), Alia est hora coniunctionis vera, alia est hora coniunctionis visibilis. . .; f. 75v, on Angelus of Viterbo and Albertus Magnus ("prima diffinitio magistri placet michi"); ff 79v-80, on the zodiac attributed to William of Marseille (England?).

Text 12: f. 81r-v

Author: Alkindi

Title: De imbrium cognitione per singulos menses

Title: De Ymbrium cognitione per singulos menses. Dorotheus.

Language(s): Latin

Incipit: Si autem de ymbrium cognitione per singulos menses sollicitus in questionum accedat solis et lune conventus

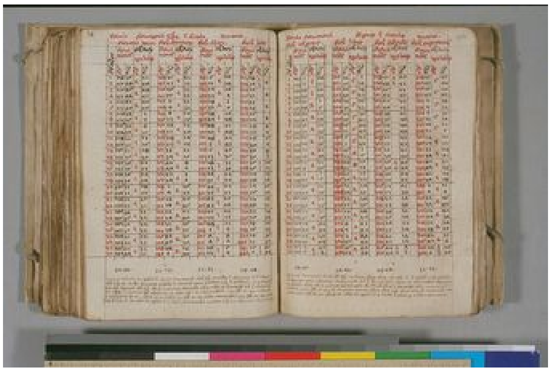
Notes: On f. 82, Est autem saltus lune subtractio unius diei a lunatione iulii in ultimo anno cicli decemnovenali et non fieret tali subtractio. . . ; on f. 82 (upside down), notes mentioning the year 1288; f. 83-rv, notes; f. 84 blank.

Text 13: ff. 84v-163v

Title: Tables

Language(s): Latin

Notes: On f. 143, notes mentioning 1284, 1286.



ff. 123v-124 Pricking along upper and lower margins for columns of tables.

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f. 163v Diagrams with reflecting mirrors.

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Part 2: ff. 1-2v, now detached

Description: - Parchment - 298 x 204 mm

Country: Italy

Region: Umbria

Assigned Date: s. IX or X

Dated by scribe: No

Document: Yes

Cardinal point:

City: Todi (prov. Perugia)

Searchable Date Range: 800 - 999

Inscribed Date:

Number of Scribes:

Script: Notarial script.

Notes: Survived as foliated flyleaves, but now detached, to the present codex; Add. 38795 A (see below) apparently also survived as flyleaves given its fold and sewing holes (?).

Acknowledgments: - We thank Prof. David Ganz for examining the London fragment.

Number of Texts: 1

Text 1: ff. 1v-2, now detached

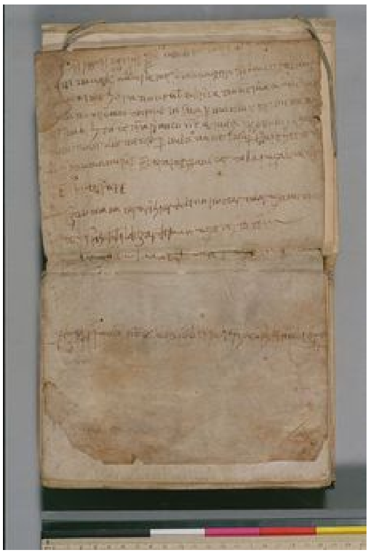
Title: Conveyance

Language(s): Latin

Incipit: Conveyance of lands near "Carisco" and Ilci to Dominicus, abbot of the monastery of S. Leucio in Todi.

Notes: Blank on the dorse except for later note with the place names, "de cariscu et ilcisca." Evidently the lower portion of London, British Library, Add. 38795 A, regarding the sale of these same lands to abbot Dominicus of the same monastery. One other piece of the document remains undiscovered.

Status of text: Fragment (lower portion of the deed with the signs of the witnesses).



ff. 1v-2 Document folded in half and used as flyleaves.

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